

American democracy is threatened by media practices such as Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. The American people depend on the news media for balanced, non-partisan information. But it seems like the media, especially broadcast media, has become an asset for certain political and economic interests.

It is your responsibility at the FCC to prevent this perversion of the public air waves. I urge you to do your job. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.